

Washington, DC -- U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) joined U.S. Rep. Maurice Hinchey (NY-22) today in offering support and condolences to the families and friends of the 13 innocent victims killed in the tragic shooting at the Binghamton Civic Association on April 3rd, 2009. Arcuri also offered his appreciation to local elected officials and emergency services personnel.

Below are Arcuri's remarks on the floor of the House of Representatives:

U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24)
In the House of Representatives
Remarks in Support of H.R. 340
April 28, 2009

Over the past several weeks, many of you have seen the images and read the news about the tragic shooting in Binghamton, New York on April 3rd, 2009. 13 innocent people lost their lives at the American Civic Association building due to a senseless act of violence. I want to take this time to again offer my deepest condolences to the families and friends of those who lost their lives on that day and to offer my sincerest gratitude to the local officials and first responders on the ground whose immediate action then prevented further loss of life...and their continued leadership now has allowed for the Binghamton community to start the healing process.

I want to especially mention Broome County Executive Barbara Fiala, Binghamton Mayor Matt Ryan, Binghamton Police Chief Joe Zikuski and Broome County Emergency Services Director Brett Chelis who led a team of hundreds of first responders consisting of police, fire and rescue and medical staff. To the staff at the local hospitals that cared for the victims of this tragedy and worked tirelessly to save lives, I sincerely thank you.

I want to say how thankful I am, and I know that so many in the Binghamton community are, to my colleague Congressman Maurice Hinchey. Congressman Hinchey answered the call at the first sign of trouble and was in his district working with his people to make sure all that could be done was being done throughout the crisis.

I again give my continued full support to all those involved and ask that we learn from such a

tragedy to do all that we can to ensure that an incident like this never happens again.”

###